The Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle

March, 2017

Southeast Federation Of Stamp Clubs

American Philatelic Society Chapter 731
www.stamps.org

Official Journal of the Chattanooga Stamp Club
MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE HICKORY VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 6605 SHALLOWFORD RD., CHATTANOOGA, TN.
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM, MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30 PM -- VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

March 9 ……..…….. Monthly Meeting
Program ……..…… One-Page Exhibit Competition
April 13……..…….…….Monthly Meeting
Program ……..……..…….. To be announced

CLUB OFFICERS

President …… Mike Ezell	mhezell@gmail.com
Vice-president ….. Jim Hogue	jlhoguejr@charter.net
Secretary …… Tom Matuszak	tommytwosocks@comcast.net
Treasurer ……... Carl Anderson	connie_anderson195@epbfi.com
Newsletter ……... Gene Bricker	gbricker@catt.com
Circuit Books ….. Mike Ezell	mhezell@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Chattanooga Stamp Club memberships are on a calendar year basis. Yearly dues are $10.00; send all monetary donations and membership dues to the club's Treasurer:

Mr. Carl Anderson, 919 Dunsinane Rd.
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

THE CHATTANOOGA STAMP CHRONICLE

The Chattanooga Stamp Club is affiliated with the American Philatelic Society. The club has been dedicated to the study, preservation, and promotion of the philatelic hobby since 1932.

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS

The Southeast Federation web site is a source for information about stamp collecting activities in the region.
Visit at: www.sefsc.org/federation-clubs.html

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

American Philatelic Society (APS) is he largest nonprofit stamp collecting Foundation of philately in the world., With about 32,000 members as of 2014 worldwide.
Visit at: www.Stamps.org.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY MEETING

16 members were present when President Mike Ezell called the January meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the Previous meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of $981.90. His report was approved.

Jim Hogue discussed the Upcoming One Page Exhibit for the March Meeting. Rules previously posted. A one page exhibit is allowed for 4 categories.

April and October are months needing a Topic and Speaker. Step up and tell us about your Activities. See Jim to set up.

Dan reported on the Atlanta Show . Over 350 attended the Show which included a First Day issue of the new Flag Stamp. Jim Cates and Dan Chaij received Vermeil Awards for their Exhibits., one step below Gold.. The next Show in Atlanta will commemorate the Centennial of Jackie Robinson.

A break allowed everyone time for Snacks and Drinks.

Jim Hogue then presented a Video on fancy cancellations.

Please Invite your Spouses to the next meeting. They will also be allowed to vote on the Exhibits.

Tom Matuszak, Secretary

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

March is almost upon us and I am getting excited about our upcoming meeting next month. This is our 1-page exhibit month and I am looking forward to seeing what our members will put together. I am also excited that for the first time our spouses and guests will be doing the judging for us. I have also heard rumors that there will be a special cake for our refreshment time.

Speaking of spouses, let each one of us encourage them to come to all meetings and to participate in one of the greatest hobbies that I have ever enjoyed. Stamp collecting is fun, educational, and for the most part, inexpensive. There are times, depending on the collector's interest, that you can spend several or even thousands of dollars for stamps. By far it is an inexpensive hobby.

Come early and check out the circuit books that we receive each month from the APS. They are usually available at 6:30. You may find a stamp or stamps that you have been searching for.

Looking forward to seeing you all there and I hope that you have a very good time putting those exhibits together.

Mike

UPCOMING AREA SHOWS

March 4-5, 2017 Knoxpex 2017 The Knoxville Philatelic Society will host KnoxPEx 2017, celebrating the Pat Summitt (1952–2016), with the most college wins as a coach, two time Olympian, and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, on March 4-5 at the Holiday Inn Knoxville-West, 9134 Executive Park Drive. Show hours are Saturday 10–5 and Sunday 10–3. Admission and parking are free.

March 18-19, 2017 Nashville Stamp & Postcard Show Nashville Philatelic Society, Fifty Forward Center, 301 Madison Street, Madison, Tennessee 37115, Tom Tribke, show@nashvillephilatelic.org, 615-833-5161, http://www.nashvillephilatelic.org

June 10-11, 2017 HUNTSPEX 2017 Huntsville 2017 Stamp and Postcard Show, Huntsville Philatelic Club, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Conference Training Center, 1410 Ben Graves Drive, Contact: Michael O'Reilly, mcoreilly@att.net, 256-527-4601, www.stampshows.com/huntsville_hpc.html

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SPECIAL MEETING FOR MARCH!

In addition to being the meeting at which we submit one-page exhibits in a competition, members and visitors are invited to bring their spouses. In a break from tradition, visitors and spouses will be invited to participate in the voting for the winners.

Special refreshments will also be served.

See column 2 for One-page exhibit rules.

This issue of the Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle is being sent to all former members, prospective members, and others on our mailing list in addition to our active members. All are invited to our March meeting to take part in this one-page exhibit judging.

"Philately", according to Wikipedia.

Philately is the study of stamps and postal history and other related items. It also refers to the collection, appreciation and research activities on stamps and other philatelic products. Philately involves more than just stamp collecting, which does not necessarily involve the study of stamps. It is possible to be a philatelist without owning any stamps. For instance, the stamps being studied may be very rare, or reside only in museums. Traditional philately is the study of the technical aspects of stamp production and stamp identification, including:

The stamp design process;
The paper used (wove, laid, etc., and including watermarks);
The method of printing (engraving, typography, etc.);
The gum;
The method of separation (perforation, rouletting);
Any overprints on the stamp;
Any security markings, underprints or perforated initials ("perfins"); and,
The study of philatelic fakes and forgeries.

One Page Exhibit Rules

1. Exhibits must be entered in one of four categories:
   A. Postal History - Entire envelopes with postage and postal markings. This includes FDC's, advertising covers, ship covers, etc.

   B. United States - Any issue including BOB items, singles, multiples, EFO's etc.

   C. Foreign - Any non U.S. Items including BOB items, semi-postal, etc.

   D. Topical - including U.S., Foreign, mixed, seals, etc. that have a topical theme.

2. Limit 3 entries per person. Can be all in one category or in multiple categories.

3. Must be on 8½ x 11 sheets of white card stock in a plastic page protector.

4. Contents can include anything that fits on a page, i.e. pictures, graphics, photo copies, etc., however a real stamp or cover **must be included** in the exhibit.

5. Descriptions can be typed or hand-written.

6. Judging will be done by popular vote of members present. *

7. Exhibitors name **must not** be a part of the exhibit.

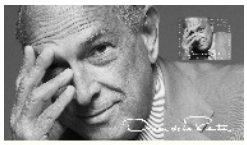
Neatness counts, good eye appeal means votes.
Prizes will be awarded in each category.

* For the March meeting there will be an exception: All attendees, visitors and spouses will be given a vote.

February New Issues

Dorothy Height
Feb 1

USA Star
Feb. 10



Oscar de la Renta
Feb 16

Uncle Sam's Hat
Feb. 18

John F. Kennedy
Feb. 20

Grapes
Feb. 24

Playing Cards

Malcolm M. Ferguson

There are two main reasons for playing cards as stamp subjects. One is the occasion of a tournament, such as the World Bridge Championship in Bermuda in 1975 (Sc.# 312-15) Bermuda Playing Cards Stamps Scott # 312-15 , or the Netherlands 6th Bridge Olympiad in 1980 (Sc. 601).

The other reason reflects on the history of playing cards, surely of sufficient cultural significance to warrant the relatively small number of stamps featuring them.

Over the last five hundred years the standard pack of 52 cards, of spades, hearts, clubs and diamonds has emerged. The deck has as many cards as there are weeks in a year, with the same number of suits as there are seasons.

Playing cards are of Oriental origin. They appeared in Germany as early as 1377. They were made increasingly popular in Europe 500 years ago by gypsies. These card decks included emblematic tarot cards useful in fortune telling as well as for card games.

Nowadays it is believed that cards are flat, shuffleable versions of other games such as dice, chess or mah-jongg. They trace back beyond India where the gypsies originated, to China. Early tarot cards consisted of 77 cards plus one card designated "the Fool", predecessor of our joker.

Many of the emblematic cards had mystical values rich with ambiguous fortune telling possibilities. Since a fortune teller must be a good psychologist, these cards served a useful purpose in reaching the subject who seeks to learn of his or her fortune.

These cards had been handmade, but began to be printed in Europe from block prints around the time that Gutenberg invented the moveable type in the 1440's.

Czechoslovakia issued a set of stamps showing these earlier cards before today's conventional pack had been established (Scott #2520-24) Czechoslovakia Playing Cards Stamps Scott # 2520-24 . East Germany also issued a set (Scott 941-44) which is also historic, but to a more limited degree.

Today's face cards must conform to convention. The features of the knaves or jacks of spades and hearts are in profile, hence "one-eyed jacks". The king of diamonds is also in profile. All queens hold stylized flowers. Several people have undertaken to design playing cards within these conventions but with more individualistic features than the present bland ones.

French graphic artist Edmund Dulac, in addition to designing excellent stamps for Great Britain, France and French Colonies around 1940 designed such an individualistic deck of cards, but it only had limited distribution.

Curiously, Monaco's card-playing Monte Carlo has not received philatelic acknowledgment. Monaco's significant interests in oceanography, in auto and bicycle racing and in an airplane rally are featured, but presumably because of the element of gambling, the ever-popular card playing has not.

But whether pictured or not, playing cards hold a fascination combining the mysteries of mathematical probabilities and the luck of the draw, with attending superstitions.

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